

Camp Copass Boys Camp 2008 - Bible Study #1

The Bible Studies and Cabin Devotionals for this week were written by Jack Smallwood from Farwell, Texas

Theme: Wild to Know

King Nebuchadnezzar - wild beast of the field

Memory Verse: "and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free."
John 8:32

Bible Study Text: Daniel 4:1-37

Object: Boys will discover some pretty wild ways God uses people for His plan.

In Daniel 4:1-37 King Nebuchadnezzar, a king who had a large and prosperous kingdom and was very proud of it, had a dream. King Nebuchadnezzar dreamed of a big towering tree at the center of the world. Its top reached the sky and it could be seen from the four corners of the earth. Its leaves were beautiful, its fruit abundant - everything living was feed and sheltered by it. And then King Nebuchadnezzar saw a holy watchman come down from heaven and say, "Chop down the tree, lop off its branches, strip its leaves and scatter its fruit, but leave the stump and roots in the ground, belted with a strap of iron and bronze in the grassy meadow. Let him lose his mind and get an animal's mind in exchange, and let this go on for seven years, so that everyone will know that God rules human kingdoms."

Now this dream scared King Nebuchadnezzar and he sent for all the wise men of Babylon to interpret the dream for him, but none could do it. And then Daniel, a man full of the Holy Spirit, came. At first Daniel was afraid to interpret the dream, because it was not a good thing for the king, but the king told him to continue and this is what Daniel saw:

"The Tree is you, O king. God has sentenced you to be 'chopped down' as the holy watchman said and to be driven away from human company and to live with the wild animals for seven years so that you will learn that God rules human kingdoms. Your kingdom will be held for you while you learn this lesson. Take my advice and change your ways now."

But King Nebuchadnezzar didn't take Daniel's advice and one year later found him bragging about his kingdom and all he had done and totally ignoring God's place in his

success. No sooner than the words were out of his mouth the dream came true and Nebuchadnezzar was driven out of human company and had to eat grass like an ox. His hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a hawk.

At the end of seven years, Nebuchadnezzar looked to heaven and was given his mind and kingdom back as he thanked and glorified God. King Nebuchadnezzar said, "Everything God does is right. He knows how to turn a proud person into a humble man."

King Nebuchadnezzar was wild to know the truth of his dream. He was wild to know what God was trying to tell him. Daniel offered good advice after he explained the dream to Nebuchadnezzar. The dream was a warning that could have saved Nebuchadnezzar seven years of living like an animal. God may give you a message this week. Don't be like King Nebuchadnezzar and waste time that could be spent in God's kingdom.

Wilds Quiz:

Can God use people even if they are not following Him?

Why did God make King Nebuchadnezzar become like a wild beast of the field?

What did King Nebuchadnezzar do when God let him have his kingdom back after seven years?

Why does God want us to know Him personally?

Does God use difficult times in our lives to bring us closer to Him?
What are some examples in your life?